

COMMISSIONERS APPROVAL

ROKOSCH *JJR*

GRANDSTAFF *AG*

THOMPSON *AT*

CHILCOTT *ag*

DRISCOLL *125*

PLETTENBERG (Clerk & Recorder)

Date.....October 16, 2007

Members Present.....Commissioner Jim Rokosch,
Commissioner Carlotta Grandstaff, Commissioner Alan Thompson, Commissioner Greg
Chilcott and Commissioner Kathleen Driscoll

Minutes: Glenda Wiles

The Board met to rescind Resolution No. 2175 which was the Emergency Proclamation and Order for the local fire season. With the recent weather change bringing moisture and cool weather, the Board agreed the Emergency Proclamation and Order could be lifted. **Commissioner Chilcott made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2188 which rescinds Resolution No. 2175. Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion and all voted "aye".**

The Board made an on site visit to the Courthouse in order to review the basement for discussion and decisions about the possible relocation of the 9-1-1 Center. Present at this walk through were Office of Emergency Services Director Ron Nicholas, 9-1-1 Center Director Joanna Hamilton and Staff from OZ Architects who are the consultants on this project.

In other business, the Board met with Dave Schultz and Vicki Bohlig of the Bitterroot Cultural Heritage Trust regarding the use of the Leonardi Property (which is now owned by the County) within the airport improvement area for historical development purposes. Also present were members of the Airport Advisory Board and the Airport Manager Page Gough. Dave Schultz gave a brief update on the Trust's recent activities, the goals they envision for this property which includes restoration, public programs, local agriculture and the 1930's hangars. Dave discussed the partnership with Ravalli County and possible funding. He also noted due to the funding of this land purchase that came from the Federal Aviation Administration (F.A.A.); any decision will need approval by the F.A.A. Dave stated they are waiting for the environmental analysis before they can move forward.

Airport Board Manager Dave Hedditch stated the F.A.A. has received the environmental assessment from Morrison Maierle Engineering Firm. The F.A.A. is currently reviewing this assessment and after that final review, the assessment will come to the county for public hearing and further changes due to public comment. The Commissioners will then sign off on the assessment. If any further land purchases come into play, Peccia & Associates will be the engineer who will facilitate this as will the F.A.A. Discussion included why the first Environmental Assessment did not move through the process which included further information the F.A.A. required from the engineering firm of Morrison Maierle. Dave Hedditch also noted there were some changes the F.A.A. made in their environmental impact statements that will be incorporated in this Environmental Assessment process.

Commissioner Thompson also noted the discussions by previous Board of County Commissioners for use of this property. He stated the F.A.A. is the ultimate grantor of property use.

Dave Hedditch stated he talked with F.A.A Attorney Joel Briggs and she advised Dave the F.A.A. would be willing to look at this proposed historical use of the property. Dave also noted if the runway was shifted 40' to the east it would open up the properties and give the needed separation of runway and flight pattern. Discussion also included adding 1,000' to the runway for air flight height when lifting off, and changing the flight pattern resulting in better safety and weight restrictions which keeps the airport at the current B12 airport use status.

Vicki stated one thing the Bitterroot Cultural Heritage Trust could provide would be an information source to the general public and also to provide the 'excitement and necessary fund raising' for this cultural and historical undertaking.

Dave Schultz asked the Commissioners if they were willing to move forward on this project and if so a committee would be established.

Vicki also addressed the Commissioners giving the Cultural Heritage Trust 'a six-month first right of refusal' or being put in 'first position' for the next six-months on this property. She stated it is important they receive a commitment from the Commissioners that would reserve the property for the Heritage Trust's formal proposal on property use. Commissioner Chilcott stated they would need to seek legal counsel in regard to committing to this property not only during the fund raising term but during a 20-year lease.

Civil Counsel Alex Beal was now present. He indicated any 'bids' for leasing this property (since it is not to be used for aeronautical purposes) should be competitive as the Commissioners have a fiduciary responsibility to the tax payers. Alex also noted the value of the improvements could be calculated into the lease agreement (i.e., renovation of the farmhouse etc., versus no renovation of the farmhouse) as the uses will be value additions to county property. In regard to giving the Cultural Heritage Trust a six month

commitment, Alex stated it would not be difficult for the Commissioners to see the value added to county property, which would allow the Heritage Trust to move forward. The Commissioners agreed Alex could address any issues from the Airport Board in regard to this project, with Page Gough being kept in the loop in order to move this project forward.

It was agreed Commissioner Driscoll will serve on this committee along with the Bitterroot Cultural Heritage Board, Airport Advisory, Aviation Safety Foundation and the Airport Manager.